WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Research on vectors by the Vector Control Research Laboratories Pondicherry

*22. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Vector Control Research Laboratories, Pondicherry have been working on resistance to pesticides amongst the vectors of human diseases like malaria, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the vectors in the country have turned resistant to pesticides and if so, the details of the pesticides tested and the levels of pesticide resistance;

(c) whether any remedial steps have been worked out in this regard; and

(d) whether the malarial parasites have also turned resistant, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The Vector Control Research Centre, Pondicherry, under the Indian Council of Medical Research has been conducting tests on sensitivity of malaria and filaria vectors to insecticides.

One of the species transmitting filariasis (mansoniodes) was found to be resistant to DDT, though susceptible to BHC. With regard to other major species transmitting filaria, tests are in progress.

The susceptibility study on one of the malaria transmitting vector (Anopheles culicifacies) was found to be resistant to DDT/BHC in Koraput District, Orissa.

(b) Out of studies made so far on the nine malaria vectors in the country, three vectors (A. Culicifacies, A. annalaris, A. Stephensi) have been found to be resistant to conventional insecticides in some parts of the country. The insecticides tested are mostly DDT, dieldrin and malathion. A. Culicifacies was found resistant to DDT in 261 districts, to DDT and dieldrin in 141 of these districts; and to all the three insecticides in 62 of those districts. A annolaris was found resistant to DDT in 45 districts, and to DDT and dieldrin in 7, of these districts. A. stephensi was found resistant to DDT in 34 districts, to DDT and dieldrin in 19 of those districts and to all the three insecticides in 7 of these districts.

(c) The remedial measures taken are:-

— Change to alternative insecticides such as DDT, BHC, Malathion, depending on vector resistance to a particular insecticide.

— emphasis on source reduction methods.

(d) Yes, Sir. The malignant variety of malaria parasite (P. falciparum) has developed resistance to the drug chloroquine in certain pockets of the country. In these areas alternative combination drugs are administered like Sulfa Pyrimethamine to treat such cases.

Homoeopathic drugs useful in birth control

*24. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Indian Express, dated the 10th April, 1989 under

the caption "Homoeopathic drugs useful in birth control"; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to propagate this system of medicine in the country for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy was involved in identifying an effective anti-fertility Homoeopathic medicine from 1972 to 1987. There was no success and the effort was abandoned for want of any promising lead.

Tamils killed by IPKF in Sri Lanka

*26. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alia* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what was the number of Tamils killed by IPKF in Sri Lanka till the 31st March, 1989; and

(b) whether Government gave any compensation to the Tamils who lost their lives in the IPKF operations in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) Whenever encounters take place in heavily populated areas, the possibility of civilians getting killed cannot be discounted. It is not practical to determine their number.

(b) Does not arise, in view of reply to (a).

Recognition to the University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi

*80. SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the teachers and students of the University College of Medical Sciences in Delhi had started an agitation and had gone on strike in recent weeks on the ground that the Indian Medical Council did not give recognition to that college;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in the matter;

(c) whether the college was de-recognised in 1985 and that students were awarded degrees even after that;

(d) if so, what were the reasons for which the students were admitted to the college while there was no recognition from the Indian Medical Council for the College;

(e) what were the reasons for which steps were not taken during the last four years to get recognition for that College from the Indian Medical Council; and

(f) what steps are being taken to ensure that the career of students pursuing the MBBS course does not suffer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SARAJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (f) The students of the University College of Medical Sciences were on strike for about 10 days in the month of March, 1989. The teachers were not on strike. They, however, supported the cause of the students who were demanding permanent recognition to the University College of Medical Sciences.

The issue was taken up with the Delhi University which runs the College as well as with the Delhi Administration. The Lt. Governor had taken a meeting with representatives of Government of India, Delhi University, Medical Council of India and College and Hospital authorities as well as the representatives of the